

PARISHES OF ST GABRIEL'S, BEXLEY and ST MARY MACKILLOP'S, ROCKDALE CITY

(Looking after the Churches of St Gabriel's, Bexley, St Joseph's, Rockdale, and St Francis Xavier's, Arncliffe)

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - 21 & 22 NOVEMBER 2020

Parish Priest – Fr Yacub Barkat

Assistant Priest – Fr Frank Regala

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**PARISH OFFICE:**

13 Parker St, Rockdale 2216.

**Phone:** 9567 1558

**Parish website:** [www.mmrc.org.au](http://www.mmrc.org.au)

**Email:** [admin@mmrc.org.au](mailto:admin@mmrc.org.au)

**Office Staff:** Ms Fransiska Widjaja and Mrs Monica Chappell

**Office hours:** Monday to Friday: 9am to 1pm (**please phone** before calling in.)

**Italian Chaplain:** Fr Adriano Pittarello: 8068 1595

**schools:**

**St Joseph's Primary, Rockdale:** 9599 2541. Principal: Ms Carolyn Yeats

**St Francis Xavier's Primary, Arncliffe:** 9567 5389. Principal: Mr Kevin Bryson

**St Gabriel's Primary, Bexley:** 9502 1932. Principal: Ms Catherine Hodgins

|                                                                                                                                       | ARNCLIFFE                                                                                                                                                      | ROCKDALE                                                                                                                                 | BEXLEY                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WEEKEND MASSES</b><br><b>Saturday Vigil</b><br><b>Sunday Masses</b>                                                                | 5.00pm Saturday<br>9.00am                                                                                                                                      | 6.30pm Saturday<br>9.00am <i>(Italian)</i><br>10.30am<br>6.00pm <i>(Third Sunday only in Filipino)</i>                                   | -----<br>9.00am<br>5.00pm                                                          |
| <b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>                                                                                                                 | 9.00am Wednesday<br>9.00am Friday                                                                                                                              | 7.00pm Tuesday <i>(Devotions, Exposition, Benediction &amp; Rosary from 5.30pm)</i><br>9.00am Thursday<br>7.30pm First Friday each month | 9.00am Monday<br>9.30am Thursday<br>9.00am Saturday <i>(Benediction at 8.45am)</i> |
| <b>CONFESSIONS</b>                                                                                                                    | 4.00 – 4.30pm<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                                       | 5.30 – 6.00pm<br>1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month                                                                 | 8.00 – 8.40am Saturday                                                             |
| <b>BAPTISMS</b>                                                                                                                       | 10.00am<br>1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month<br><br>Please phone the Parish Office to make an enquiry or booking on 9567 1558 during office hours.           | 11.30am<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month                                                                                           | 10.00am<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month                                     |
| <b>WEDDINGS</b>                                                                                                                       | Monday to Saturday by appointment. Currently weddings can have 100 people, <b>but the 4 square metre rule and social distancing must be strictly observed.</b> |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading: <i>Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17</i> ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading: <i>1Cor 15:20-26, 28</i> ; Gospel: <i>Mt 25:31-46</i> |                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                    |

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM - ps. 22:1-3,5-6

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose. *R/*

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.  
He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name. *R/*

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. *R/*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. *R/*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
**Alleluia!**



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

This weekend at special Masses, outside of the regular weekend Masses, our parish children will be making their First Holy Communion. Two children will also make their First Holy Communion at St Francis Xavier's next Sunday at the 9am Mass. This year has been especially difficult for the celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, but we have been able to hold them under the strict Covid-19 conditions imposed on our churches this year. This also means no singing as part of the celebration of the Masses which is quite sad. We thank Fr Yacub for being flexible and willing to work with the Sacramental Co-ordinators to enable them to go ahead.

We sincerely wish to thank those who have been involved, even in a small way. Some of those people who have been working with the children and behind the scenes are: Fr Yacub, Parish Sacramental Co-ordinators, Parish Catechists, Family Educators, Year 3 teachers, Religious Education teachers, our School Principals and their Executive staff, parish office staff, those who prepared the Liturgies, church cleaners and flower arrangers. Thank you also to the parents and children for being so patient with us.

Please keep all these children in your prayers and pray that Our Lord who has come to them this weekend and next, will guard them and guide them in their Faith Journey as they receive Him in their lives.

## RESTRICTIONS ON OUR CHURCHES

- From Friday 23 October, restrictions on church attendance were eased further to allow for up to 300 attendees at Mass. The rules still state that **churches must follow a four-square metre rule. Our three churches are limited for numbers attending and none can hold even 100 people.** If there are too many people attending then those coming late may be asked to attend elsewhere.
- Parishioners are urged to wear face masks as a safeguard to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Congregational singing, the sign of peace and passing of the collection plate continue to be suspended at this time.
- When preparing to receive Holy Communion, parishioners are asked to go seat by seat to enable more distancing between others who are in the line. Please go from the nearest seat to the Priest or Acolyte but please wait until there is space to join the queue before standing up.
- The dispensation from the Bishops from attending Mass is still ongoing.
- ANYONE who enters the church must give their names and contact details before entering the church. These records will be kept for four weeks.
- Only one door will be opened to enable accurate recording of those attending.
- Hands must be sanitised when entering the church.
- Parishioners must not mingle before, during or after Mass since social distancing rules cannot be easily observed.
- Please do not come to the church if you are unwell, even with a simple cold.
- If a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs in a parish, every person who has registered as an attendee of the parish will be notified of the diagnosis and the date and time the infected person attended the church. No other details will be provided.
- The Parishes will comply with privacy requirements.
- Live streamed Masses are available by following this link - <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses/>

## CHARITABLE WORKS FUND (CWF) APPEAL

Thank you to those parishioners who gave to the CWF Appeal, last weekend. The envelopes are still available in our churches if you wish to give. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible but please make sure you complete the details required on the special envelopes provided.

## CATHOLIC MISSION CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Gardens on Forest, 746 Forest Road, Peakhurst – **Sunday, 6th December** 1pm – 5pm. Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at the magnificent grounds of The Gardens on Forest, to support Catholic Mission's first ever Christmas Market. With plenty of entertainment, refreshments, auction items, gifts and much, much more, you'll be able to find something for everyone on your Christmas gift list, have fun and treat yourself! All proceeds will support the work of Catholic Mission's partners at The Arrupe Centre in North-Western Cambodia. If you are unable to attend and wish to make a donation, please do so online at [catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia](http://catholicmission.org.au/Cambodia) or call Catholic Mission on 1800 257 296

## A PRAYER FOR RENEWAL

Blessed are you, Father, who, in your infinite love sent us your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, that we may have life, and have it in abundance.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, renew our Eucharistic communities. May they be places of encounter with the living Christ, centres of evangelisation and outreach to our community in love and mercy. Grant us the gifts of faith, hope and love to be faithful disciples of Jesus and radiant witnesses to the people of Sydney.

Our Lady, Help of Christians. *Pray for us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Star of the New Evangelisation. *Pray for us!*

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. *Pray for us!*

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS & CHRISTMAS CARDS

The 2020 Columban Calendars are now available at the Piety Stalls for \$10 each. **Religious Christmas cards are also available.**

## CHRISTMAS MASSES AND RECONCILIATIONS

### RECONCILIATION

|                  |                                                   |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bexley</b>    | Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 8.00 – 9.00am |
| <b>Arncliffe</b> | Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 4.00 – 4.45pm |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 5.00 – 6.00pm |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | Tuesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 6.00 – 6.30pm  |

### MASSSES

#### Christmas Eve, Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> December

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| <b>Bexley</b>    | 5.00pm |
| <b>Arncliffe</b> | 5.00pm |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | 6.30pm |

#### Midnight Mass, Thursday night/Friday morning

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Arncliffe</b> | 12.00am Midnight |
|------------------|------------------|

#### Christmas Day, Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> December

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Arncliffe</b> | 9.00am                         |
| <b>Bexley</b>    | 9.00am                         |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | 9.00am (Italian)               |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | 10.30am                        |
| <b>Rockdale</b>  | 11.30am – Extra Mass this year |
| <b>Bexley</b>    | 5.00pm – Extra Mass this year  |

#### New Year's Day – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January

|                  |         |                 |        |
|------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|
| <b>Arncliffe</b> | 9.00am  | <b>Rockdale</b> | 9.00am |
| <b>Bexley</b>    | 10.00am |                 |        |

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISHES

We have a number of parishioners who are suffering from cancer and other serious illnesses, so we ask that you please keep them all in your prayers.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** John Doherty, Virgilio Carrabs, Michael Rooney, Lorenzo Caruso, Tarun Gomes and Dorothy Costa.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Damiano Bonfa, Peter Paoloni, Norma Newton, Giuseppe Monforte, Marie-Claude Videau, Darcy Tosh, Peter Hampton, Michele La Manna, Antonietta Danieletto, Lance Shepherd, Concetta Ruggier.

**We especially remember those for whom Masses have been requested, those in our Memorial Books and all our deceased relatives, friends, parishioners, and benefactors. May they rest in peace. Amen.**

ST MARY MACKILLOP'S QUOTE

"Pray often for me." 15.7.1892

